



APD NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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APD 1st QUARTER TRAFFIC FATALITIES UPDATE

There have been 14 crashes resulting in 14 traffic fatalities since January 1st. Seven of the 14 fatalities were motor vehicle occupants. Four of the fatalities were pedestrians and three were motorcyclists. Speed was a factor in 36 percent of the 14 fatalities and 43 percent of the traffic fatality victims were not wearing seatbelts. Two of the three motorcyclists were not wearing a helmet. 43 percent or 6 of 14 fatalities involved impairment.

There were 60 traffic fatalities in Austin during 2007. In 2006, there were 64 traffic fatalities.

Each traffic fatality is reviewed to determine contributing factors along with other elements that resulted in the collision. Traffic fatalities are placed in the following categories: driving culture, impairment and bizarre/medical.

The Austin Police Department is greatly concerned that lives are being lost on the streets and highways of Austin. The department is dedicated to making the roadways of Austin safe for residents and visitors through education, enforcement and engineering.

Media Advisory: Austin Police Department Sgt. Kris Thompson will be available for interview at Headquarters at 2 p.m. Please call APD-PIO to schedule.

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